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REMARKS

Claims 1-15

Claim 1 is an independent claim, from which claims 2-15 ultimately depend. Claims 1-5, 7-11, and 13-15 have been rejected. Claims 6 and 12 have been objected to as containing allowable subject matter, and which would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including the limitations of their base claims and any intervening claims. Both claims 6 and 12 directly depend from claim 1.

Applicant has amended claim 1 to incorporate the subject matter of claims 6 and 12 in the alternative, and has cancelled claims 6 and 12. Claim 1 has also been amended to remove the subject matter added thereto in the previous office action response, and which did not serve to convince the Examiner of the patentability of claim 1. Thus, claim 1 is now limited to "one or more of the following [being] true:" "first," the subject matter of claim 6; and "second," the subject matter of claim 12.

Applicant therefore submits that claim 1 is patentable, such that all the remaining pending claims depending from claim 1 are patentable.

Claims 16-26

Claim 16 is an independent claim, from which claims 17-26 ultimately depend. Claims 16-18, 20-24, and 26 have been rejected. Claims 19 and 25 have been objected to as containing allowable subject matter, and which would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including the limitations of their base claims and any intervening claims. Claim 19 directly depends from claim 16, whereas claim 25 directly depends from claim 23, which directly depends from claim 16.

Applicant has amended claim 16 to incorporate the subject matter of claims 19 and 25 in the alternative (the latter also including the subject matter of claim 23), and has cancelled claims First named inventor: Flotats Serial no. 10/766,554 Filed 8/13/2004 Attorney docket no. 200206527-1 Page 11

19 and 25. Claim 16 has also been amended to remove the subject matter added thereto in the previous office action response, and which did not serve to convince the Examiner of the patentability of claim 16. Thus, claim 16 is now limited to "one or more of the following [being] true:" "first," the subject matter of claim 19; and "second," the subject matter of claims 23 and 25.

Applicant therefore submits that claim 16 is patentable, such that the remaining pending claims depending from claim 16 are patentable.

Claims 27-28

Claims 27-28 have been cancelled without prejudice.

Claims 29-37

Claim 29 is an independent claim, from which claims 30-37 ultimately depend. Claims 29 and 31-35 have been rejected. Claims 30, 36, and 37 have been objected to as containing allowable subject matter, and which would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including the limitations of their base claims and any intervening claims. Claims 30, 36, and 37 all directly depend from claim 29.

Applicant has amended claim 29 to incorporate the subject matter of claims 30, 36, and 37 in the alternative, and has cancelled claims 30, 36, and 37. Claim 30 has also been amended to remove the subject matter added thereto in the previous office action response, and which did not serve to convince the Examiner of the patentability of claim 30. Thus, claim 30 is now limited to "one or more of the following [being] true:" "first," the subject matter of claim 30; "second," the subject matter of claim 36; and "third," the subject matter of claim 37.

Applicant therefore submits that claim 29 is patentable, such that the remaining pending claims depending from claim 29 are patentable.

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Conclusion

Applicants have made a diligent effort to place the pending claims in condition for allowance, and request that they so be allowed. However, should there remain unresolved issues that require adverse action, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone Mike Dryja, Applicants' Attorney, at 425-427-5094, so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible. For these reasons, this application is now considered to be in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,

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